River Protection Project

Note: This Project's workscope, and its lead contractor, Lockheed Martin Hanford, transfer from the Project Hanford Management Contract to DOE's new Office of River Protection effective October 1, 1999.

Expectation:

Protect the Columbia River, our workers and the public by safely storing and disposing of high-level radioactive tank waste.

Single-Shell Tank Pumping Update:

- **Another 103,000 gallons of liquid wastes were removed from seven tanks this quarter, and an eighth tank went into pumping phase at the end of September.**

- **Estimates of the waste volume contained in the 29 tanks covered by the consent order signed by DOE and the State of Washington last year have been lowered from 6.18 million gallons to 4.01 million gallons.**

- **Since pumping resumed in June 1998, more than 480,000 gallons – or about 12 percent of the estimated 4-million-gallon total – have been pumped out. All pumping is to be completed by September 30, 2004.**

Workers install the pump for S-103, one of the most recent single-shell tanks to enter the pumping phase. By June, pumping must start on at least three more tanks, although as many as six more could be started during fiscal 2000.

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Cross-Site Transfer Update:

- In the second use of the new cross-site line, more than 500,000 gallons of liquid tank wastes were transferred from 200 West to double-shell tanks in 200 East, completing the scheduled transfers for the fiscal year with about 1.2 million gallons transferred.

Tank SY-101 Update:

- A transfer pump was installed, the major step toward pumping out more than 100,000 gallons of waste this fall.

Groundwater/Vadose Zone Update:

- Decommissioned a borehole near Tank SX-108. Samples from this borehole, still under analysis, are believed to be the most radiologically contaminated taken from Hanford soil.

- A new borehole was drilled near Tank SX-115. Preliminary results show that some layers in Hanford soil may retard the downward flow of water and contaminants.

Crews install the transfer pump and related equipment for SY-101 and conduct the first flush of the pump. This fall, about 100,000 gallons will be transferred from SY-101 into nearby SY-102.